

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1-72. (Canceled)

73. (Currently Amended) A method comprising:

receiving, at a terminal, a request to tune to a program being transmitted by a ~~program~~ provider, wherein the request is received after a start time of program transmission;

determining, by the terminal, that a user terminal has remained tuned to the program for a predetermined threshold amount of time;

generating and communicating a request to the ~~program~~-provider to retrieve a copy of a portion of the program in response to the ~~predetermined threshold amount of time being exceeded~~request to tune to the program and said determining; and

receiving the copy of the portion of the program, wherein the portion comprises the program transmitted between the start time and a receipt time of the request to tune to the program.

74. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 73, further comprising generating ~~wherein the user terminal generates a prompt requesting approval prior to generating the request.~~

75. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 73, wherein the request ~~user terminal is automatically generates and communicates the request~~generated and communicated to the provider.

76. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 73, wherein the copy does not include the portion of the program ~~broadcasted~~transmitted after the receipt time.

77. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 73, further comprising:
receiving a channel selection during transmission of the program;

receiving a request for a synopsis of the program during transmission of the program;

upon receipt of the request for the synopsis, identifying a portion of the program that has been transmitted as of an identified clock time; and

causing presentation of the synopsis of the program that summarizes the portion of the program that has been transmitted from a beginning of program transmission until the identified clock time.

78. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 77, wherein the synopsis is presented in a fast forward mode.

79. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 77, further comprising ~~requiring determining that the user terminal has maintained~~maintaining the channel selection for a predefined period of time before causing presentation of the synopsis.

80. (Currently Amended) An apparatus comprising:

a storage medium; and

a controller operatively coupled to the storage medium, the controller being configured to cause the apparatus to perform operations comprising:

receiving a request to tune to a program being transmitted by a ~~program~~ provider, wherein the request is received after a start time of program transmission;

determining that ~~the apparatus~~a user device has remained tuned to the program for a predetermined threshold amount of time;

~~generating and communicating a request to the program provider to retrieve~~retrieving a copy of a portion of the program in response to ~~the predetermined threshold amount of time being exceeded~~said request and said determining; and

~~receiving~~transmitting the copy of the portion of the program, wherein the portion comprises the program transmitted between the start time and a receipt time of the request to tune to the program.

81. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 80, wherein the controller is configured to cause the apparatus to generate a prompt requesting approval prior to generating the request.

82. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 80, wherein the controller is configured to cause the apparatus to automatically generate and communicate the request.

83. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 80, wherein the copy does not include the portion of the program broadcasted after the receipt time.

84. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 80, wherein the controller is configured to cause the apparatus to perform:

receiving a channel selection during transmission of the program;

receiving a request for a synopsis of the program during transmission of the program;

upon receipt of the request for the synopsis, identifying a portion of the program that has been transmitted as of an identified clock time; and

causing presentation of the synopsis that summarizes the portion of the program that has been transmitted from a beginning of program transmission until the identified clock time.

85. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 84, wherein the synopsis is presented in a fast forward mode.

86. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 84, wherein the controller is configured to ~~cause the apparatus to require maintaining~~ determine that the user device has maintained the channel selection for a predefined period of time before causing presentation of the synopsis.

87. (Currently Amended) A method comprising:

causing, by a server, transmission of a program to a user terminal;

receiving a request from the user terminal that requests a copy of a portion of the program ~~in response to a determination that the user terminal has remained tuned to the program in excess of a predetermined threshold amount of time; and~~

causing, in response to a determination that the user terminal has remained tuned to the program in excess of a predetermined threshold amount of time, transmission of a copy of a portion of the program to the user terminal.

88. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 87, wherein the copy of the portion of the program comprises a complete copy of the program.

89. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 87, wherein the copy of the portion of the program comprises less than a complete copy of the program.

90. (Currently Amended) A system comprising:

a data storage device; and

a server operatively coupled to the data storage device, the server being configured to cause the system to perform operations comprising:

causing transmission of a program to a user terminal;

receiving a request from the user terminal that requests a copy of a portion of the program ~~in response to a determination that the user terminal has remained tuned to the program in excess of a predetermined threshold amount of time;~~ and

causing, in response to a determination that the user terminal has remained tuned to the program in excess of a predetermined threshold amount of time, transmission of a copy of a portion of the program to the user terminal.

91. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 90, wherein the copy of the portion of the program comprises a complete copy of the program.

92. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 90, wherein the copy of the portion of the program comprises less than a complete copy of the program.